

Remarks

I. Addressing the Examiner's Rejections of the Claims.

A. The Examiner rejected claims 51-52 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting asserting that the claims are unpatentable over claims 1, 6 and 7 of U.S. Patent No. 5,985,305.

Applicants submit that the accompanying Terminal Disclaimer overcomes this rejection. The Terminal Disclaimer presents the chain of title that demonstrates co-ownership of the present application and U.S. Patent No. 5,985,305. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

B. The Examiner rejected claims 51-52, 55, 57-60, 75 and 87 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting asserting that the claims are unpatentable over claims 1-2 and 5-10 of U.S. Patent No. 6,261,584.

Applicants submit that the accompanying Terminal Disclaimer overcomes this rejection. The Terminal Disclaimer presents the chain of title that demonstrates co-ownership of the present application and U.S. Patent No. 6,261,584. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

C. The Examiner rejected claims 51-54 and 76-86 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting asserting that the claims are unpatentable over claims 1-3 and 10-11 of U.S. Patent No. 5,728,396.

Applicants submit that the accompanying Terminal Disclaimer overcomes this rejection. The Terminal Disclaimer presents the chain of title that demonstrates co-ownership of the present application and U.S. Patent No. 5,728,396. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection.

II. Conclusion.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims comply with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112 and define an invention that is patentable over the art. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance is believed to be in order.

Please direct all further communications in this application to:

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If the Examiner notes any further matters which the Examiner believes may be expedited by a telephone interview, the Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned at 510-782-7800, ext 122.

Respectfully submitted,

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